WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording tape cartridge which is loaded into a drive device for use, the recording tape cartridge comprising:

a case for rotatably accommodating, at an interior of the case, a reel on which a recording tape is wound, the case having an opening for pulling-out of the recording tape from the interior of the case; and

a shielding member, slidably held at the case, for closing the opening,

wherein the case has a peripheral wall having an outer surface, and a projection is provided at the shielding member with the projection being exposed from the outer surface of the peripheral wall, such that, due to the cartridge moving in a predetermined direction for loading the cartridge into a drive device, the projection abuts one portion of the drive device and can be moved relative to the peripheral wall, whereby the shielding member opens the opening,

and wherein the projection has an end surface which, in a state in which the shielding member closes the opening, is flush with at least one portion of the outer surface of the peripheral wall.

2. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein a slit, which exposes the projection from the outer surface of the peripheral wall, is formed in the peripheral wall, and the slit extends parallel to the predetermined direction for loading and permits relative movement.

3. The recording tape cartridge of claim 2, wherein one end of the slit is formed so as to open at the opening.

4. The recording tape cartridge of claim 2, wherein the case has an upper case and a lower case, and the upper case and the lower case are joined together such that there is an accommodating space therebetween, and the upper case and the lower case have wall portions, and the wall portions have end edge portions which are joined together, and the slit is formed by cutting one portion of the end edge portion of one of the wall portions of the upper case and the lower case.

5. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the shielding member is urged in a direction of closing the opening.

6. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein a direction of closing the opening substantially coincides with the predetermined loading direction.

7. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the peripheral wall has a side wall and a front wall with respect to the predetermined direction for loading, and the opening is provided at a corner portion between the side wall and the front wall.

8. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein a corner portion has a surface which is inclined with respect to the predetermined direction for loading, and the opening is formed at said surface.

9. The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the case has an upper case and a lower case, and the upper case and the lower case are joined together such that

there is an accommodating space therebetween, and the upper case and the lower case each have a substantially rectangular plate, and wall portions surrounding a periphery of the plate so as to define at least one portion of said space, and outer surfaces of the wall portions are inclined outwardly at a predetermined angle of inclination with respect to a direction perpendicular to the plate.

10. The recording tape cartridge of claim 9, wherein the end surface of the projection has an inclined surface running along the outer surface of at least one of the wall portions of the upper case and the lower case.

11. The recording tape cartridge of claim 9, wherein the predetermined angle of inclination is from about 1° to about 2°.

12. The recording tape cartridge of claim 9, wherein the case is molded so as to have a draft at the peripheral wall, and the end surface of the projection has an inclined surface which runs along the draft of the peripheral wall at at least one portion of a wall surface at a periphery of the region where the end surface of the projection projects.

13. A recording tape cartridge which is loaded into a drive device for use, the recording tape cartridge comprising:

a case for rotatably accommodating, at an interior of the case, a reel on which a recording tape is wound, the case having an opening for pulling-out of the recording tape from the interior of the case; and

a shielding member, slidably held at the case, for closing the opening,

wherein the case has a peripheral wall having an outer surface, and a projection is provided at the shielding member with the projection being exposed from the outer surface of the peripheral wall, such that, due to the cartridge moving in a predetermined direction for loading the cartridge into a drive device, the projection abuts one portion of the drive device and can be moved relative to the peripheral wall, whereby the shielding member opens the opening,

and wherein the projection, in a state in which the shielding member closes the opening, is within a region of a contour of the case, which region is demarcated by the outer surface of the peripheral wall.

14. The recording tape cartridge of claim 13, wherein the projection has an end surface which runs along the predetermined direction for loading, and the end surface has a portion which is flush with at least one portion of the outer surface of the peripheral wall at a periphery of the projection.

15. The recording tape cartridge of claim 13, wherein the peripheral wall has a side wall and a front wall with respect to the predetermined direction for loading, and the opening is provided at a corner portion between the side wall and the front wall.

16. The recording tape cartridge of claim 15, wherein the corner portion has a surface which is inclined with respect to the predetermined direction for loading, and the opening is formed at said surface.

17. The recording tape cartridge of claim 13, wherein the case has an upper case

and a lower case, and the upper case and the lower case are joined together such that there is an accommodating space therebetween, and the upper case and the lower case each have a substantially rectangular plate, and wall portions surrounding a periphery of the plate so as to define at least one portion of said space, and outer surfaces of the wall portions are inclined outwardly at a predetermined angle of inclination with respect to a direction perpendicular to the plate.

18. The recording tape cartridge of claim 17, wherein the end surface of the projection has an inclined surface running along the outer surface of at least one of the wall portions of the upper case and the lower case.

19. The recording tape cartridge of claim 17, wherein the predetermined angle of inclination is from about 1° to about 2°.

20. The recording tape cartridge of claim 13, wherein the case is molded so as to have a draft at the peripheral wall, and the end surface of the projection has an inclined surface which runs along the draft of the peripheral wall at at least one portion of a wall surface at a periphery of the region where the end surface of the projection projects.